



Gideon | Eric Parks | 9.15.19

Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

What was the BEST part of your week?

SHARE

Our church exists to make Heaven more crowded by welcoming home prodigals! We desire to be a front porch where people feel welcomed into the house that God is building. The front porch of a house always leads into a home and the unique thing about the body of Christ is that we are the family of God, where every believer has a place in the home. That's why the Scriptures refer to us as brothers and sisters in Christ, because that is what we are!

Our hope is that Red Rocks is a place where everyone feels like they are a part of the family. No matter who you are, where you are from, where you've been, or what you've done, we want you to feel at home. No church does this perfectly, and we know we still have a long way to go, but we are committed to working toward this goal together. This week we are talking about learning to hear God's voice and growing in our relationship with Him and others. At Red Rocks Church, we want to help people move from attending to truly belonging, from listening about God's word, to reading it themselves. Moving from attending and listening, to belonging and reading takes faith and intentionality. Community can be messy and sometimes unpredictable and spending time with God can feel daunting, but that is why we have each other to encourage one another as we grow together.

GROW

Read Judges 6-7

God calls out Gideon, the one in hiding, to be the one who would ultimately bring freedom to his people. Gideon was the unlikely leader. We know that Gideon was the self-proclaimed weakest of his clan; timid, skeptical and full doubt. The man who would raise up an army, to defeat the oppressor with a small number of fighters holding trumpets of all things. We can only say 'But God'! God's persistence, gracious love, sovereignty and power did not back away from a weak, timid and skeptical man. To the human mind, this doesn't make sense. But God confidently called out a Mighty Hero, for His glory and for their good. God knew Gideon was the man for the job, but Gideon first had to realize it was God speaking to him and God who believed He picked the right person for the task ahead.

Can you relate to Gideon's story? Have you ever been in a place where you may have found yourself hiding in life because of self-doubt or fear?

Wherever we find ourselves in this moment, God is calling each of us out into something greater. Inviting us all into a bigger story than just our own. Like Gideon, we are all ordinary people, living ordinary lives, broken and undone and in need of a Savior. We are all in need of Jesus. He is the true Hero of the story. He acts for His glory and for our good at the same time, every time.

M O V E

Read Judges 6:11-18

Maybe you are in a season where you are unable to hear God's voice. May it be you are far from Him or there may be some loud noises in your life that have distracted you from hearing.

What does it look like to practically hear His voice again is there something you need to start doing or stop doing?

As Eric mentioned this week, our God is such an intentional God. He hears, He speaks, He sees, and He surrounds. We know that God is always speaking. We know that He has a much larger perspective than we have, and we know that He provides the right people to surround us with in such a time as this. God does this almost always by interrupting our own plans.

God saw Gideon. Gideon was safe in hiding away from the Midianites and God sent an angel and told him that he was about to lead an army to victory! Talk about an interruption! But on the other side of it, we can guarantee Gideon was so grateful that God interrupted his plan.

Has there been a time in your life where God interrupted “your” plan? Share with your group.

Gideon had to learn to hear God’s voice again and to learn to trust God’s perspective on the situation he faced. Hearing God’s voice requires us to be in relationship with Him. We must know the truth of God’s word and remind ourselves of what it says, so that we can truly surrender to God’s plans for our lives. We must be in His Word, worship Him and surround ourselves with like-minded people deeply rooted in Jesus.

Pick one question below to answer that is most relevant to you today:

- What tends to stop you from spending time with Jesus?
- Is there a current situation where you are having difficulty trusting God?
- How would you encourage someone who is having difficulty finding a rhythm to connect with God?
- Who are you surrounding yourself with and are those the type of people who will go to “war” for you when necessary?

PRAY

As a group, spend some time praying for each other. If you are in a co-ed group, it can be helpful to break up into two groups in order to share more easily about your prayer request.

T O G O

Judges 6:16

“The Lord said to him, “*I will be with you.*” And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man.”

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